

Letter from Orlando Gray to Juliana Reynolds, March 4, 1862

Camp Jameson

4th March 1862

Dear Sister,

Yours of the 26 inst was recivd to day. Your kind letters are Welcome weekly visitors in Our Camp and I am Sorry that you have not more leshure time to devote to writing to the Soldiers in Camp for I fear that you exert your self beyond your strength to answer all the letters you get from Camp for fear we might think that you was forgetting us. But my advice to you is not to rob nature of her just dues for the sake of gratifying our Curiosities for if you do She will Shurely Rebell. Now I know that you will write to Tilton as often as you can find time and you will want to write to John to but if you will just write a little to him and me in Tiltons letters it will do us just as well as if you would spend your precious time in writing a while sheet out. I would not make these Sugestions if I were not So well acquainted with your circumstances and the numberless responsibilities that rest on you head.

In my last wrote that I thought that you were over anxious about Tilton and I think so still your explanations to the Contrary notwithstanding. Now he has been a good and useful man ever since he has been in the Service and his conduct would compare favorably with almost any man in Camp and I want you to write a few kind letters to him. Praise him a little along with your Catesizeing ["spelled wrong"-- author's notation above word] and I think it would have a Salutory effect on him. Capt Tracy has Resigned and I do not know who will be his Successor. Yet their is still some signs of a move but when it will be we have but little chance to know. I am affraid that it will interfere with my getting a leave of absence to go home but I Shall try pretty hard after pay day. We have had the stormiest

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and most change able weather since the middle of December that I ever saw or heard of. I think that we have had only about three sunshiny days in that time but it begins to look now as though we might have a little pleasant weather.

The war news is very scarce at present owing to the [?] stringent order in relation to newspaper[s] publishing the movements of the army. But I should not wonder if we should have [?] times before long. I do not think that the war is as near over as some think but I do think that its back Bone is badly bent and must soon break. I was not much of an Abolition when I left home but I tell you I am a very strong one now and every other man that has been among the people enough to see the evils effect of Slavry here in Virginia. I will not endeavor to portray it on paper but if I ever get home I can tell you about it. But I will close for this time. Send my love to all Our friends and believe this to be from your Friend and Brother.

Orlando